



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

News Release

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GOVERNOR

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STATE AND COUNTY WORK TO IMPROVE WEST NILE VIRUS SURVEILLANCE

HONOLULU – The Hawaii State Department of Health, in partnership with the City and County of Honolulu and the Department of Land and Natural Resources, today announced that Oahu residents now have eight locations that will accept dead birds for West Nile Virus testing.

While there are currently no cases of West Nile virus in Hawaii, the disease often appears first in local bird populations, so dead birds in an area may indicate the presence of the disease.

Residents are asked to collect and take dead birds to:

- DOH Vector Control Branch
- Hawaiian Humane Society
- Kapiolani Park
- Kualoa Regional Park
- Waialua District Park
- Waianae District Park
- Waimanalo District Park
- Waipahu District Park

At park locations, the public should take the bird to the main office. Drop-off hours may vary by location. Check the Department of Health web site at www.hawaii.gov/health or call 2-11 for details on bird collection and drop-off locations. If it's not possible to drop-off the bird, the same day it is collected, the bird can be frozen and turned in the following day.

(more)

West Nile Virus is a sometimes-fatal disease that is spread by the bite of an infected mosquito. While it usually circulates between mosquitoes and birds, it can be transmitted to people by a bite from an infected mosquito. WNV is not transmitted from person to person or from birds to people.

Most people who become infected with West Nile Virus will have either no symptoms or only mild ones. However, on rare occasions, West Nile Virus infection can result in severe and sometimes fatal illnesses.

Since infected mosquitoes transmit WNV, it is best to avoid mosquito bites. Individuals can protect themselves by wearing long pants and sleeves, using repellent that contains DEET, maintaining window and door screens to keep mosquitoes out and by eliminating standing water to reduce the number of mosquitoes as well as future generations.

Residents can dispose of bulky items that could hold water and breed mosquitoes by calling the City and County of Honolulu Refuse Division at 523-4685 to arrange for curbside pickup.

Should a bird or mosquito test positive for West Nile Virus, the Hawaii State Department of Health along with county and federal partners will conduct immediate mosquito suppression activities such as the spraying of insecticide and the treatment of standing water for mosquito larvae. Residents will be given adequate notice prior to spraying activities.

For more information on West Nile Virus, visit the DOH website at www.hawaii.gov/health.

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For More Information Contact:

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Oahu Dead Bird Drop-off Sites

Hawaiian Humane Society
2700 Waialae Avenue
Honolulu, Hawaii 96826
946-2187
(Hours: generally 24 hours a day, seven days a week)

Kapiolani Park
2447 Leahi Avenue
Honolulu 96815
733-7389
(Hours: Monday through Friday 6:00 am – 2:30 pm)

Kualoa Regional Park
49-479 Kamehameha Highway
Hauula, HI 96717
237-8525
(Hours: Monday through Saturday 8:30 am – 4:30 pm, Sunday 9:00 am – 3:00 pm)

Department of Health Vector Control Branch Laboratory
99-945 Halawa Valley Street
Aiea 96701
483-2535
(Hours: Monday through Friday 7:45 am – 4:30 pm)

Waialua District Park
67-180 Goodale Avenue
Waialua 96791
637-9721
(Hours: Monday through Friday 9:00 am – 9:00 pm, Weekend 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm)

Waianae District Park
85-601 Farrington Highway
Waianae 96792
696-4441
(Hours: Monday through Thursday 9:00 am – 8:30 pm, Friday 9:00 am – 5:30 pm,
Sunday 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm)

Waimanalo District Park
41-415 Hihimanu
Waimanalo 96795
259-8926
(Hours: 8:00 am – 9:00 pm)

Waipahu District Park
94-230 Paiwa Street
Waipahu 96797
675-7129
(Hours: Monday through Friday 9:00 am – 9:00 pm, Weekend 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm)